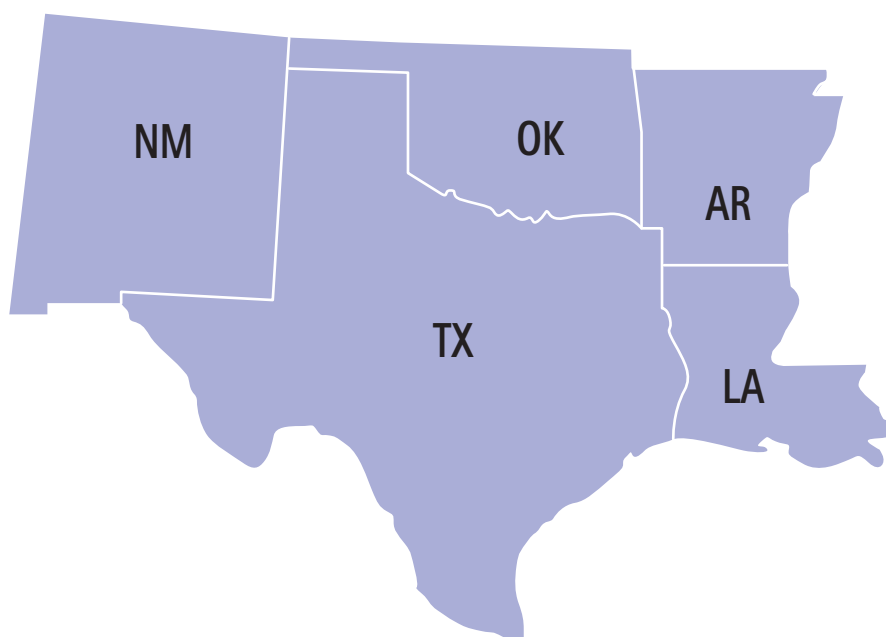


## Region 6 Environmental Finance Center

AT THE NEW MEXICO INSTITUTE OF MINING  
AND TECHNOLOGY



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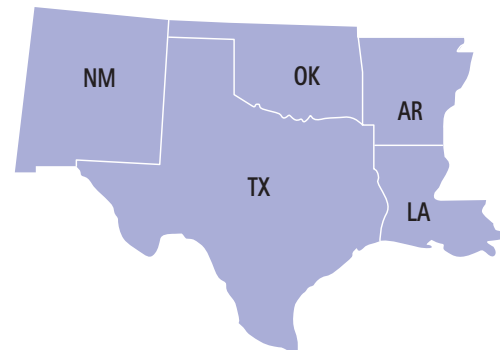
## BACKGROUND & SUMMARY

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) Region 6 Environmental Finance Center is located at the New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology (New Mexico Tech) and serves New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Louisiana. The core mission of the New Mexico Environmental Finance Center (NM EFC) is to help state, local, and tribal governments meet environmental infrastructure needs and regulatory compliance through state and local capacity building and technical information transfer. Capacity building includes enhancing technical, managerial, and financial capabilities to achieve consistent and sustainable regulatory compliance and develop sustainable infrastructure.

The NM EFC assists in local capacity building by:

- Examining alternative approaches to meeting regulatory compliance or environmental infrastructure needs.
- Empowering communities to act as the “drivers” for their own projects.
- Assisting with procuring professional services.
- Presenting funding alternatives.
- Acting as a bridge among federal, state, local and tribal governments.
- Presenting neutral analyses of issues or projects.
- Gathering stakeholder input.
- Capacity development activities for Region 6 states
- Capacity development program for New Mexico
- Capacity development for tribal water systems
- Tribal operator certification program
- Feasibility analysis of water treatment for small public water systems
- Independent analysis of leak detection technology for Albuquerque
- Water system collaboration project for New Mexico
- Arsenic treatment outreach efforts for New Mexico water systems

### REGION 6



The NM EFC has been extremely active during the past year and has experienced significant growth in its program activities. The major projects that were active or completed in 2005 include the following, each of which is described in more detail in this report:

# ACTIVITIES & ACCOMPLISHMENTS



## Completed Projects & Initiatives

### CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES FOR REGION 6 STATES

The EFC continued to assist Region 6 with implementation activities associated with capacity development strategies, as required under the 1996 Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) amendments. This work included activities in three different categories described as follows:

#### *Technical Information Gathering and Transfer*

The NM EFC attended workshops and conferences to present papers, interact with states and technical experts, and gather information on techniques, approaches, and tools that could be used by the states. The topics of workshops included new regulations under the SDWA, asset management, capacity development, drought management, and water conservation.

#### *Capacity Development Implementation Assistance to Region 6 States*

The NM EFC worked with Region 6 states on capacity development assistance. Discussions with individual states included sharing information regarding capacity activities in other states and discussing potential capacity development training programs. The NM EFC has continued discussions with the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) on ways to improve its capacity development program, particularly in capacity assessments, prioritization of water systems, and potential water system assistance. These activities continue under a separate contract with NMED. The NM EFC also has a separate contract from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) to conduct capacity assessments for noncompliant small water systems.

#### *EFC Network Assistance*

The NM EFC works with the other EFCs in the network on projects, answering questions, providing

### *In 2005, the NM EFC...*

- ◆ Held 10 training events during for tribal water operators and managers.
- ◆ Attracted 143 participants to these events, including representatives from water systems from 20 of the 21 Region 6 tribes in New Mexico.
- ◆ Completed 112 assessments of community water systems.

information, and other collaborative activities as needed. The NM EFC also attends the Environmental Financial Advisory Board (EFAB) meetings twice a year as well as the EFC director's meetings.

### CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM ASSISTANCE FOR NEW MEXICO ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

The NM EFC continued to assist NMED with revisions to the capacity development program under a contract initiated in 2004. The assistance consists of three main tasks: 1) revising the capacity assessment procedures and conducting capacity assessments of water system; 2) assisting in developing a new prioritization program; and, 3) training NMED staff to conduct capacity assessments.

The NM EFC developed a three-tiered approach to capacity assessment. The systems are prioritized into tiers based on factors such as compliance history,



# ACTIVITIES & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

customer complaints, requests for funding, drought concerns, and other known problems or issues with the systems. They are also prioritized based on the need for information.

- **Tier 1:** Systems with the greatest concerns; requires a significant amount of information. Receives an in-depth assessment process that requires interviews and multiple days to complete.
- **Tier 2:** Systems with minimal concerns; consists of a questionnaire that takes approximately two hours to complete.
- **Tier 3:** Systems with no known concerns; consists of a short questionnaire that takes about 30 minutes on the phone to complete.

The NM EFC has completed 112 assessments of community water systems across New Mexico. Based on the information gathered during the assessments and discussions with NMED staff, the assessment forms have been revised several times. The assessments have been used by the NMED to direct technical assistance to communities of concern and determine sufficient capacity for Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund approval.

The new prioritization process will involve gathering data from the Safe Drinking Water Information System (SDWIS), the capacity assessments, and other sources to determine what systems have a need for funding and where they should be ranked on the priority list.

The final component of the project is to train NMED field staff to oversee the assessment process. The training will also involve managerial and financial capacity in general.

## **STRENGTHENING PUBLIC HEALTH PROTECTION THROUGH THE MULTIPLE BARRIER CONCEPT**

The NM EFC continued its efforts to assist tribal water systems in improving public health protection. The NM EFC frames the assistance in terms of maxi-

mizing the use of each of the barriers—source, treatment, and distribution. Water system managers and operators need to clearly understand each of these barriers to prevent contamination from entering the system or reaching users.

One of the measurements of the overall effectiveness of the program is the compliance record of the tribal water systems. The NM EFC and EPA Region 6 developed a graph that plots the number of Total Coliform Rule (TCR) violations by month. The number of violations continues to decrease each year; and although the summer months show peaks in the number of violations, these peaks are decreasing each year. The NM EFC plans to provide assistance and training to the water systems to continue to reduce the summer peaks. The graph showing compliance trends for 2000 to 2005 is included in the section on performance measures.

A summary of the various activities of the NM EFC in assisting tribal water systems is presented as follows. Because the tribal assistance is an ongoing, multi-year project, the activities provided are similar from year to year.

### *Compliance Monitoring and Technical Assistance*

The NM EFC coordinates the sampling required under the Safe Drinking Water Act, and also assists with the development of Consumer Confidence Reports, Total Coliform Rule compliance and sampling plans, operation and maintenance support, and troubleshooting.

### *Managerial and Financial Capacity Building*

The NM EFC assists tribes with utility ordinances and bylaws, rate-setting, and budgeting.

### *Public Education and Outreach*

The NM EFC assists with the development of educational display boards, brochures, pamphlets, and handouts. In addition, the NM EFC participates in community events, such as environmental, health, and water fairs.



# ACTIVITIES & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

## *Information Management Activities*

The NM EFC gathers information for EPA Region 6 regarding system inventories, new systems, populations, system classification, and other necessary data.

Under these broad headings, the EFC has provided a wide array of assistance including developing utility boards, setting utility rates, developing public education campaigns on the need to charge for water, assisting with sampling and analysis, sharing information regarding potential funding sources, providing training classes, and helping with preparation of Consumer Confidence Reports (CCRs). A particular focus of the 2005 program was to reduce the occurrences of “summer hits.” During the warmer summer months, the number of total coliform hits generally increases. The EFC is offering training and assistance to try to reduce these occurrences.

The fact that the compliance situation has improved dramatically throughout the past five years has provided the opportunity to move the assistance activities to the next level. The NM EFC has now fully implemented its “beyond compliance” program to encourage tribes to make improvements beyond simply doing the minimum to meet compliance. These efforts are aimed at optimizing water system operation. Activities in this area include the following:

### **Multiple Barrier Evaluations and Associated Training**

Multiple Barrier Evaluation training is similar to sanitary survey training, but is presented from an operator focus, rather than a regulatory focus. It is intended to present the “big picture” to operators and to help them understand the reason why sanitary deficiencies are a problem. In addition to the training, the NM EFC performs Multiple Barrier Evaluations (MBEs) on water systems. These MBEs are voluntary and identify potential health and safety concerns with the water systems. A report is presented to the system staff, describing the potential concerns.

## **Groundwater Comprehensive Performance Evaluations**

Groundwater Comprehensive Performance Evaluations (CPEs) provide a snapshot of whether a water system is fully optimized in all three barriers (i.e., source, treatment, distribution) and provides an indication of what factors are preventing the system from being fully optimized if it is not meeting all of the optimization goals. The NM EFC has linked elements of the groundwater CPE program to the MBE activities for a more comprehensive approach.

## *Performance-Based Training*

For 18 months, the NM EFC worked with Process Applications, Inc. and EPA Region 6 on Performance-Based Training (PBT). This training was intended to provide water operators with the skills necessary to conduct water system studies, troubleshoot problems, collect and analyze water quality data, and communicate more effectively with management. Six pueblos participated in the program. The formal training activities were completed in January 2005. The group decided to continue to meet on a quarterly basis to share information and work together informally to solve water system concerns. Three quarterly meetings were held in 2005, and these meetings are anticipated to continue through 2006.

## **TRIBAL OPERATOR CERTIFICATION PROGRAM**

In January 2003, the NM EFC gave its first Region 6 Tribal Water Operators Certification Exam. Since that time, the EFC has been providing Operator Certification Exams approximately every quarter (in some cases additional exams are given to meet tribal operator needs.) In 2005, 14 operators received certification and one operator achieved a Level 3 water distribution certification, which is the highest distribution category. This program is only open to operators of tribal drinking water systems in EPA Region 6.

In addition to the Operator Certification Exams, the Tribal Operator Certification Program includes the Tribal Utility Advisory Committee and Gap

# ACTIVITIES & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Certification Training, which are described in more detail as follows:

## *Tribal Utility Advisory Committee*

As part of the initial development of the Operator Certification Program, the NM EFC formed a Tribal Utility Advisory Committee (TUAC). Membership was open to all tribes and pueblos in Region 6. After the completion and approval of the Operator Certification Guidelines, the TUAC is now focused on review of the training program, modifications to the guidelines, proposals for future activities, and the annual review of the program.

## *Gap Certification Training*

The NM EFC provides training opportunities for tribal water operators to fill voids or needs that are not being met by other training providers. The topics for these classes are suggested by tribal operators through surveys, based on responses provided on evaluation forms for other EFC trainings, suggestions of the TUAC, or based on observed needs. During 2005, the EFC held gap trainings on the Safe Drinking Water Act Regulations, Disinfection, Arsenic Rule compliance, and Multiple Barrier Evaluations (non-regulatory sanitary surveys).

## **INDEPENDENT ANALYSIS OF LEAK DETECTION TECHNOLOGY FOR ALBUQUERQUE BERNALILLO COUNTY WATER UTILITY AUTHORITY**

The Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority received a grant from the Governor's Innovative Fund to investigate a proactive leak detection technology. This technology is being installed and operated by Fluid Conservation Systems (FCS) Inc., a manufacturing company that developed and sells the technology. The approach involves installing data loggers on top of meters within the water system. The data loggers listen for leaks in the middle of the night to determine if there is a potential leak in the system. If there is a leak, the units go



into alarm mode. A patroller is used to pick up the alarm signals at the various units placed within the system. A correlator can then be used to determine the location of the leak within the pipe.

The intent is to capture information regarding leaks of which the system operations staff might be unaware. The theory is that not all leaks will surface; some leaks will remain below ground level and can leak for a long time before detection. With a more proactive approach to leak detection, it is hoped that more leaks can be found and that the unaccounted for water losses can be reduced.

The EFC's role in this project is two-fold: 1) to investigate the economics of using the FCS technology within the system to improve overall asset management and water conservation in the system, and 2) to investigate five years worth of leak data (FY 00 to FY 04) to provide a more complete picture of the current leak situation within the system. The first portion of this study is similar to work that the EFC did for the city of Albuquerque when it was investigating a non-destructive pipe evaluation technology. The second portion also builds upon previous work of the EFC when it analyzed five years worth of leak data and provided a profile of leakage within the city water system.

This project was initiated in 2004, continued through 2005, and is expected to be completed in late 2006.

## **FEASIBILITY ANALYSIS OF WATER SUPPLY FOR SMALL PUBLIC WATER SYSTEMS**

Under a subcontract with Parsons Infrastructure and Technology Group, Inc., the NM EFC participated in a project to identify and analyze alternatives for small drinking water systems that are not in compliance with drinking water regulations. The NM EFC evaluated the capacity of water systems to determine their ability to implement compliance alternatives. In addition, the NM EFC assisted in the evaluation of the financial condition of the water systems. This project built upon the previous efforts during 2004 and

# ACTIVITIES & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

included 15 water systems. This project was completed between June and August of 2005.

## **WATER SYSTEM COLLABORATION PROJECT FOR NEW MEXICO**

The NM EFC received a contract from the NM Department of Finance and Administration, with the funding from the Office of the State Engineer (OSE), to work with 10 groups of water systems throughout the state to determine if these systems would agree to any type of collaboration. This project is a follow-on to a project completed the previous year for three groups of water systems. The NM EFC teamed up with Rural Community Assistance Corporation (RCAC) and New Mexico Rural Water Association (NMRWA) to complete this project. In addition, several state agencies formed a management team to assist with direction for the project, including the OSE–Local Government Division, NMED, and the New Mexico Finance Authority.

The individual make-up of the participants and participating water systems in each group varied. In one case, two groups that were located in somewhat close geographic proximity agreed to form one larger group, leaving nine groups total. The project used a facilitated set of meetings to lead the groups through the following stages:

- **Convening.** The group will agree that the participants reflect the people that need to take part in these facilitated meetings in order to develop a successful regional water system. If not, others will be invited and a second convening meeting will be held.
- **Learning.** The group will agree on ground rules, review the existing water delivery system(s), and learn about the current context that has consequences for the development of a regional water system. One or more presentations will be made on potential management and facility design options. Two meetings will be allocated for learning.
- **Planning and Choosing.** The committee will determine the options most acceptable to people once they have considered factors such as the history, context, and design options. One or two meetings will be allocated for planning and choosing.
- **Changing.** A final meeting will present the final option(s) preferred by the group, along with a visual report of the process. While all meetings will be open to the public, those impacted will be especially encouraged to attend this meeting and learn what the group is proposing.

Each group was assigned a team including a facilitator and a technical advisor who worked together to lead the group through the stages.

One goal of the project was to have each regional entity develop a document that would specify the nature of the collaboration, including the short- and long-term goals of the group. The intent was to have these documents structured as some type of inter-governmental agreements so that they were somewhat binding on the groups.

By the end of the project, seven of the nine collaborative groups signed agreements to work together and had developed a plan for the short- and long-term needs of the communities. Many of the groups are currently seeking funding to implement these plans.

## **ARSENIC RULE COMPLIANCE OUTREACH EFFORTS FOR NEW MEXICO WATER SYSTEMS**

The NM EFC has been working in a partnership with Sandia National Laboratory, University of New Mexico, the Waste Education Research Consortium (a partnership of New Mexico State University, University of New Mexico, New Mexico Tech, and Dine College) to assist water systems that might be impacted by the new Arsenic Standard, which limits arsenic concentrations to 10 parts per billion. It is estimated that 80 to 90 water systems in New Mexico will not meet the new standard, as nearly half of the potentially affected systems currently have arsenic levels between 10 and

# ACTIVITIES & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

15 parts per billion. Due to sampling and analytical uncertainties at low levels of arsenic and variations based on geologic and climatic conditions, it is unclear how many water systems will ultimately be required to remove arsenic or provide some other method of compliance.

The arsenic outreach partnership is providing direct one-on-one assistance or assistance in regional clusters to water systems that might be impacted by the arsenic standard. The assistance will include free arsenic testing by Sandia Labs, assistance with compliance options, and information regarding appropriate funding sources. Thus far, the NM EFC has assisted approximately eight non-tribal and 10 tribal water systems with arsenic-related concerns.

## **NEW MEXICO FINANCE AUTHORITY ENGINEERING AND ENVIRONMENTAL ASSISTANCE**

In July 2005, the NM EFC began a project with the New Mexico Finance Authority (NMFA) to assist with engineering and environmental reviews. Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) applicants are required to submit various documents to receive funding, including an Environmental Information Document (EID) and a Preliminary Engineering Report (PER). One of the tasks of the NMFA, as the administrator of the funds, is to ensure that these documents meet all the funding criteria and that the EID complies with the State's Environmental Review Process (SERP).

One of the difficulties the NMFA has had regarding environmental documents was related to difficulties interpreting the SERP. To resolve this issue, the NM EFC worked with EPA Region 6 and NMFA to develop a revised SERP to clarify the requirements and streamline the review process.

The NM EFC also reviewed environmental documents from water systems and provided guidance for water systems seeking DWSRF funds.

## **ARSENIC PILOT PROJECT**

The NM EFC worked with a tribal water system to evaluate a new method of arsenic removal. This system was installed in the summer of 2005. Initial sampling and analysis showed that the system was not effectively removing arsenic from the raw water. The equipment supplier reformulated the media, and the test was restarted in the fall of 2005. The sampling after this reformulation also showed disappointing results and the pilot was concluded in December 2005. This method of arsenic removal is currently being tested at another site in southern New Mexico. The results of that testing will be compared to the results of this pilot.

## **New Projects & Initiatives**

The new initiatives for the NM EFC are highlighted as follows. These initiatives build upon the work efforts of the NM EFC for the past several years.

### **ADVANCED ASSET MANAGEMENT – PHASE II**

In 2005, the NM EFC embarked on a new initiative to assist with the promotion and implementation of advanced asset management for smaller water systems, as discussed previously in the section titled, "Capacity Development for Region 6 States." This effort is considered to be a long-term, multi-phased program. Phase I was started in FY 06 and will continue until early FY 07. In FY 07, the NM EFC will begin Phase II of this program, which includes working with a few water systems in Region 6 to develop an Asset Management Plan and to test the Advanced Asset Management approach developed in Phase I.

### **USDA TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING GRANT**

Tribal communities often do not have established rate schedules to require residents to pay for water and wastewater services. In other cases, a rate structure is established, but it is either not adequate to cover the actual costs of operation or residents are unwilling to

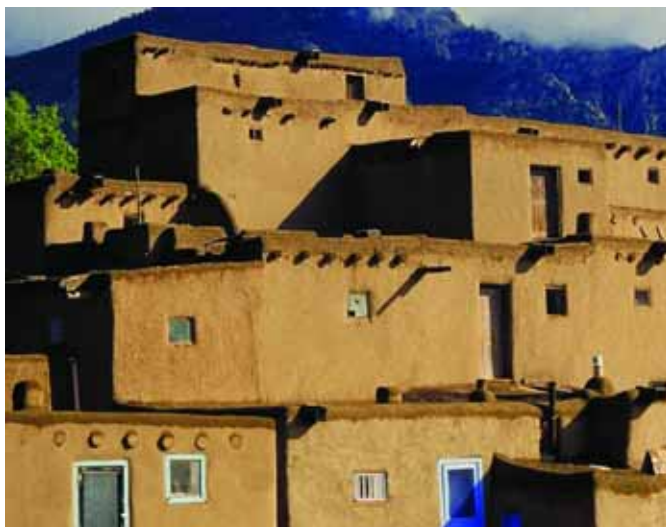


# ACTIVITIES & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

pay the rates, or both. This situation means that tribal water and wastewater utilities do not function, in general, as enterprise operations. Many tribal water and wastewater utilities in New Mexico have expressed an interest in setting rates that cover the cost of service and have described frustration with their inability to collect rates if they do enact a rate schedule. In the past, assistance has been provided to tribal communities by several organizations to help them develop an adequate schedule, but to date these efforts have been largely unsuccessful.

Some of the issues regarding why rates are not effectively collected are deeply cultural and specific to tribal communities. The difference in tribal social structures might explain the failure of so many distinct attempts to institute rates in tribal communities. All of these efforts relied on proven techniques that have worked in non-tribal communities and did not fully consider the specific cultural differences that prevented success. Unless an effort is made to understand and embrace the culture of these communities and devise a solution that would be acceptable to the community, a system of rates will never be established that can be effectively implemented.

The NM EFC is submitting a proposal to the U.S. Department of Agriculture to use a process of community collaborative learning to address this issue in a site-specific way.



## REGIONALIZATION/COLLABORATION EFFORTS IN NEW MEXICO

The NM EFC has been working with the New Mexico Office of the State Engineer (OSE) for the past two years on a project to promote regional collaboration between water and wastewater utilities. The OSE would like to expand this effort to additional communities and additional services in the next year.

## PILOT PROJECT TO PROMOTE ASSET MANAGEMENT, WATER AUDITS, AND FINANCIAL PLANNING

The NM EFC will be working in partnership with the New Mexico Rural Water Association (NMRWA) and the Rural Community Assistance Corporation (RCAC) to pilot three programs in small community water systems—asset management, water auditing, and financial planning. The pilot projects will help demonstrate the value from these types of approaches in terms of system improvements. Another goal of the pilot projects is to assess the feasibility of funding agencies using these tools to help ensure that their investments are operated and maintained in the best possible way. This project will be completed under a grant from OSE.

## CLEAN AIR INVESTMENT FUND

The NM EFC worked in collaboration with the EFC in Region 9 to complete a procedures document to establish a Clean Air Investment Fund (CAIF) in the El Paso/Juarez/Dona Ana County air shed. The project determined that at the time of completion (December 2002) there was not a need for the fund in terms of a regulatory relief valve mechanism (i.e., addressing high compliance costs). However, the CAIF has remained in the attention of the Clean Air Act Advisory Committee, and discussions have been reestablished to see if the fund can be used for other non-regulatory purposes, such as voluntary compliance, voluntary supplemental environmental projects, additional monitoring, research, and others. The NM EFC might work on this project if interest continues.

# ACTIVITIES & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

## EFC NETWORK COLLABORATIONS

The NM EFC has collaborated with other EFCs this past year on a variety of projects and efforts:

- Clean Air Investment Fund, including the NM EFC (leader) and EFC9.
- Resource Based Source Water Protection Collaborative Efforts with EPA Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water, with the NM EFC, Syracuse EFC, Maryland EFC, Boise State EFC, and UNC EFC.
- Rate-Setting, with Syracuse EFC and Maryland EFC.

## CONFERENCES

- Made presentation at workshop at the Arsenic Treatment Technologies for Small Water Systems, Indian Health Service, January 6, 2005, Albuquerque, New Mexico.
- Participated in workshop at the Professional Training Techniques, Indian Health Services, January 11–13, 2005, Albuquerque, New Mexico.
- Participated in workshop at the Association of Boards of Certification Annual Conference, January 25–27, 2005, New Orleans, Louisiana.
- Participated in the Sandia National Labs Arsenic Workshop, January 28, 2005, Jemez Pueblo, New Mexico.
- Participated in the Amigos Bravos Clean Water Act, Clean Water Workshop, January 29, 2005, Taos, New Mexico.
- Participated in the Environmental Financial Advisory Board Meeting, March 15–16, 2005, Washington, D.C.
- Participated in the Environmental Finance Center Network Directors Meeting, March 17, 2005, Washington, D.C.
- Participated in Tribal Roundtable at the New Mexico Rural Water Association Annual Conference, March 21, 2005, Albuquerque, New Mexico.
- Attended EPA webcast “TCR Implementation Issues,” March 23, 2005.
- Participated in National Tribal Environmental Council “Emergency Response Planning and Preparedness” workshop, April 6–7, 2005, Albuquerque, New Mexico.
- Delivered presentation and participated in IHS Annual Workshop, April 12–13, 2005, Durango, Colorado.
- Delivered presentation and participated in Regions 6 and 8 Capacity Development Workshop, April 19–21, 2005, Dallas, Texas.
- Attended EPA webcast “Stage 1 Disinfectant and Disinfection By-Products Rule,” April 27, 2005.
- Participated in Asset Management Workshop, May 5–6, 2005, Washington, D.C.
- Participated in Area-Wide Optimization Meeting – Region 6, May 11–12, 2005, Albuquerque, New Mexico.
- Participated in New Mexico Water and Wastewater Association Northern Short School workshop, May 16, 2005, Taos, New Mexico.



# ACTIVITIES & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Attended EPA webcast “Consumer Confidence Reports,” May 25, 2005.
- Delivered presentation and participated in Regions 5, 7, 9, 10 Capacity Development Workshop, July 28, 2005, Portland, Oregon.
- Participated in Environmental Financial Advisory Board Meeting, August 15–16, 2005, San Francisco, California.
- Participated in workshop of the New Mexico Water Research Symposium, New Mexico Water Resources Research Institute, August 16, 2005, Albuquerque, New Mexico.
- Made presentation and participated in Regions 1, 2, 3, and 4 Capacity Development Workshop, August 30–31, 2005, Atlanta, Georgia.
- Participated in Rural Community Assistance Corporation Management Workshop, September 7, 2005, Zia Pueblo, New Mexico.
- Made presentation and participated in workshop at the American Water Works Association, Rocky Mountain Section, Annual Conference, September 27–28, 2005 Albuquerque, New Mexico.
- Participated in workshop at the Third Annual Drought Summit, October 6, 2005, Albuquerque, New Mexico.
- Participated in the Waste-Management Education & Research Consortium (WERC) Sandia National Labs Arsenic Workshop, October 11, 2005, Albuquerque, New Mexico.
- Made presentation and participated in New Mexico Infrastructure Financing Workshop, October 25–27, 2005, Albuquerque, New Mexico.
- Made presentation and participated in Association of Drinking Water Administrators Annual Conference, October 18–20, 2005, St. Louis, Missouri.
- Made presentation and participated in State/Tribal/EPA Ground Water/Source Water Protection Representatives Meeting, November 1–3, 2005, Acoma Pueblo, New Mexico.
- Made presentation and participated in Clean Air Act Advisory Committee Meeting and Subcommittee Meeting on Economic Incentives and Regulatory Innovations, November 16–17, 2005, El Paso, Texas.
- Made presentation and participated in WERC/Sandia National Labs Arsenic Workshop, December 8, 2005, Santa Fe, New Mexico.
- Made presentation and participated in WERC/Sandia National Labs Arsenic Workshop, December 9, 2005, Jemez Pueblo, New Mexico.

## Contact

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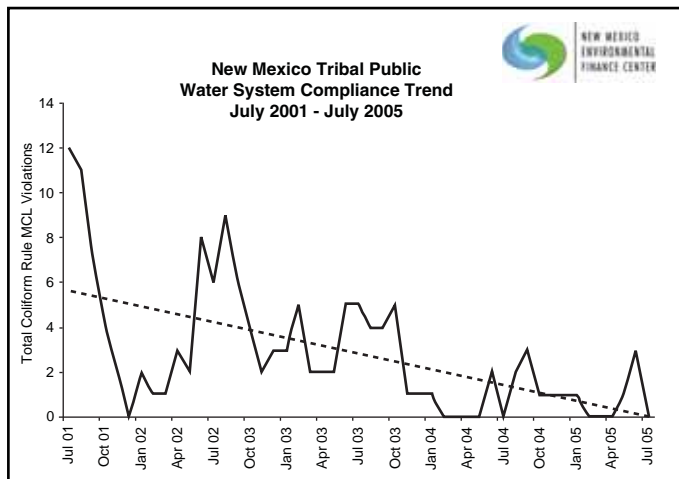


# PERFORMANCE MEASURES

## Outcomes

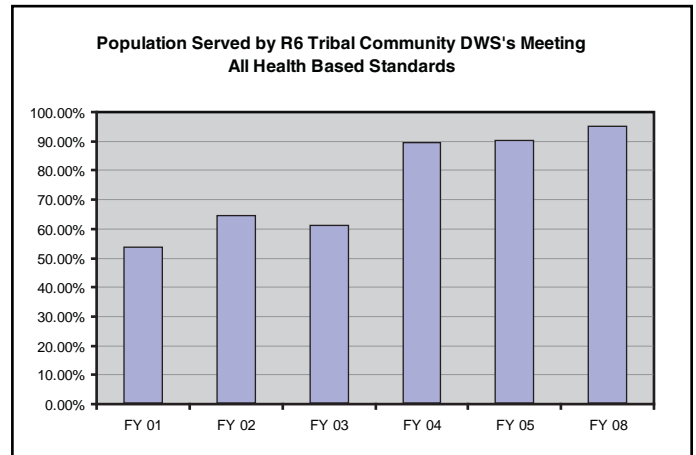
As a result of the activities and accomplishments outlined in the previous section, outcomes have included the following:

- Nearly every client with which the NM EFC has worked has come back to the NM EFC for an additional or follow-up project.
- Representatives from water systems from 20 of the 21 EPA Region 6 tribes located in New Mexico attended training events.
- Compliance with the Total Coliform Rule, one of the most critical requirements of the Safe Drinking Water Act, has greatly increased throughout the years. Part of this improved compliance is a direct result of a major initiative on the part of the NM EFC to educate tribal water system personnel on the requirements of the rule and to provide direct one-on-one assistance to water systems to ensure they meet the requirements.



- The tribal population served by Region 6 tribal community drinking water systems meet all health-based standards. Currently, 90.4 percent of the population is served by compliant water systems, and the work of the NM EFC has contributed to the dramatic increase in compliance since 2001.

- Seven of nine groups of water systems signed collaborative agreements. The NM EFC worked with the New Mexico Rural Water Association and Rural Community Assistance Corporation to assist regional collaborative groups in developing and signing a document formalizing the collaborative working relationship.



## Impacts

Specific environmental issues addressed through the EFC's 2005 activities and accomplishments include:

- Drinking water
- Drought management
- Clean air